

REMARKS ON THE BUPRESTIDÆ (COLEOPTERA)
OF THE NORTH PACIFIC COAST REGION
WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW
SPECIES

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In preparing a monograph of the Buprestidæ of the North Pacific Coast region, some rather interesting data have been accumulated and some apparently new species have been found.

Among the new forms several are represented by uniques and these have been allowed to remain unnamed pending the capture of additional material.

In the area extending from San Francisco Bay region to Alaska and inland from one hundred to three hundred miles there are found ninety-two species belonging to twelve genera. Of these ninety-two species, forty-five work in coniferous trees, thirty-six in deciduous trees or shrubs, and the hosts of thirteen species are unknown. Only two species, *Anthaxia æneogaster* L. and G. and *Melanophila acuminata* DeG., are known to attack both conifers and hardwoods.

Comparatively few species are confined to a single host plant. On the other hand a few attack a wide variety of plants. For example, *Chrysobothris mali* Horn is recorded from forty-one different hosts.

It seems strange that there is not a single representative of the four-leaf mining genera, *Brachys*, *Taphrocerus*, *Pachyschelus* or *Rhæboscelis* found in the entire region.

Genus DICERCA Esch.

There are five native species of this genus, two work in conifers and three in broad leafed trees or shrubs. In addition to the five native species *D. lurida* Fab. has been introduced and apparently established, as several examples have been taken over a period of years.

Genus PÆCILONOTA Esch.

The three representatives of this genus work in *Populus* or *Salix*.

Genus TRACHYKELE Mars.

Four species and one variety (*T. juniperi*) are found; all work in conifers.

Genus BUPRESTIS Linn.

Of the twenty-four species, belonging to *Buprestis*, found in America, North of Mexico, just one-half, twelve, occur in this area.

The species of this genus are for the most part well known and easily identified.

Buprestis langi Mann, has been variously considered as a valid species, a subspecies, or a variety, founded primarily upon the deeper and more densely punctured striæ. The fact that there are some eighteen synonyms suggests that there is a considerable variation in size, color and other minor characters.

This species is separated with difficulty from *B. fasciata* Fab. In a series of over one hundred specimens representing localities from British Columbia to southern California; South Carolina to Ontario and various localities between, the following differences are noted:

B. langi Mann.

Western States

Form more elongate, narrower in proportion to length. Uniformly larger: female, length 19 mm.; male, length 16 mm.

Color, female, light green, rarely blue, without markings or with two to four cream-colored spots on apical half of wings, spots without or with only faintly evident black borders.

Male usually with six elytral spots, middle two tending to form a cross band; green, usually tinged with copper. Fovæ and irregularities at base of elytra more pronounced, apices sinuate, teeth less pronounced, often lacking, at the lateral angle which is rounded. Long in proportion to width, last ventral segment of abdomen variously shaped but with more or less pronounced teeth. Striæ wider, punctures large and quite confluent.

B. fasciata Fab.

Eastern States

Form less elongate, wider in proportion to length. Uniformly smaller: female, length 14-17 mm.; male, length 10-15 mm.

Color, female, brilliant, dark green with four to six tan-colored spots, middle ones usually forming an almost complete transverse band; spots with wide, distinct black border.

Male similar to female (*sexplagiata* Lec. has first spot elongate, extending to base of elytra). Fovæ absent or shallow, irregularities less pronounced, apices deeply sinuate, with prominent lateral teeth. Last ventral shorter, variously shaped, but usually rounded laterally, without teeth. Striæ narrow, punctures small and separated.

B. maculativentris Say, *B. rusticorum* Kirby and *B. subornata* Lec. seem to be somewhat confused. *B. maculativentris* does not occur in this area and can at once be separated by the presence of teeth or spines at the tips of the elytra.

Rusticorum and *subornata* are distinct species, the former being confined to Douglas fir and Abies, while the latter is a pine-breeding form.

B. nuttalli Kirby is apparently confined to the far north. It is a small species and seldom found in collections. Many specimens determined as *nuttalli* are really *consularis* or *alternans*.

The prominent sinuations just behind the humeral angle, so pronounced in *consularis*, is entirely lacking in *nuttalli*. The spots on the abdomen are more red than orange, and for the few specimens seen (nine) are constantly being found near the lateral margins and never in the middle of the segments. The convex striæ are almost entire and do not merge as in *alternans*. The sides of the thorax are regularly arcuate without the basal inflation of *alternans*.

Genus MELANOPHILA Esch.

Of the fifteen species found in the United States, eight inhabit the North Pacific region. Some species are very abundant and at times kill considerable quantities of timber. *M. atropurpurea* Say and *M. acuminata* DeG. are distinct species. The elytra of the former terminate in a distinct spine, while in the latter the tips of the elytra are acuminate but there is no spine.

Genus ANTHAXIA Esch.

Anthaxia is represented in the North Pacific area by four species one of which is new.

Anthaxia pseudotsugæ W. J. Chamberlin, n. sp.

Body elongate, narrow, subcylindrical; elytra black with greenish tinge, humeral margin green; pronotum dark bronze with green borders; front brilliant to dark green; lateral margins of the thorax slightly but very evenly arcuate, slightly narrower in front than at the base, four-sevenths as long as broad, slightly narrower than the elytra; clypeus with a deep emargination (fig. 1). Elytra parallel for two-thirds their length, then gradually converging, tips rounded and serrate, surface finely reticulate. Length 5.2 mm.; width 1.9 mm.

Last ventral segment of the female with a small semicircular emargination, that of the male entire.

(To be continued)